GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2132
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2017
Cesarean Procedure
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a survey conducted by National Family Health Survey in 2015- 16 in 15 States reported the rate of Csection births at 87 per cent and an yearly increase at 16.7 per cent above the recommended rate of WHO and one of the highest in the World, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government is planning to take action against the Gynecologists/Nursing Homes/private hospitals/Government hospitals, who preferred cesarean procedure to a normal delivery and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has collected any data of new born babies by Cesarean and normal delivery in the country in the last two years and the current year and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to investigate the matter and corrective measures mulled upon; and

(e) whether the Government is planning to make it mandatory for hospitals to publicly display the number of C-section surgeries and normal deliveries carried out and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)
(a): National Family Health Survey (NFHS 4) 2015-16 was conducted in all States and Union Territories (UTs) of the Country. According to NFHS 4, 17.2 percent births (for births in the 5 years preceding the survey) delivered by Caesarean section in comparison to 8.5 percent reported in NFHS 3 (2005-06). NFHS 4 did not report 87 percent births by Caesarean section for any State/UT. The World Health Organisation (WHO) norms prescribe that C-section deliveries should ideally be around 10-15 per cent of the total number of deliveries in the country, at population level.
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(b): No, as health is a state subject, states needs to work toward implementation of clinical establishment act.
(c): States/UTs are reporting health services data including delivery conducted by Cesarean section on the web based Health Management Information system (HMIS) established by the Ministry of health and Family welfare. A statement containing total deliveries and C- section deliveries reported by the States/UT during last 2 years on the HMIS portal is given in Annexure.
(d): Government of India has already written to all States and UTs sharing the latest WHO statement on Caesarean Section Rates. In addition, States have been informed to conduct periodic prescription audit in the private health facilities under the Clinical Establishment Act. They have also been informed that prescription audits can be extended to public health facilities. 10 States and 6 UTs have adopted the Clinical Establishment Act. Health being a state subject, it is the responsibility of the states to effectively implement the act.

A communication has also gone to Federation of Obstetrical & Gynecological Societies of India (FOGSI) which is the largest professional body of Obstetricians and Gynecologists in India for sharing the WHO guidance notes to all their State chapters and the Obstetricians and Gynecologists registered with them.
(e): Government is aware about the increasing ratio of deliveries through Caesarean section in Private Hospitals. In this regard, it has been decided that empanelled hospitals under CGHS shall inform the public about ratio of deliveries by Caesarean Section vis-Ã -vis normal deliveries in their Hospital. All CGHS empanelled Hospitals are therefore requested to display such information on voluntary basis prominently near reception of the hospital, to begin with.
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